



SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church
March, 2014

'I will praise God's name in song, and glorify him with thanksgiving.' Psalm 69



In the Rogers and Hammerstein musical 'Carousel,' the song cries out: 'March went out like a Lion;' Here at Palm Springs Presbyterian, it is marching IN like a lion! Sundays, always filled with an energy that is contagious, have become almost overwhelming. This is certainly not a complaint, but an acknowledgement of the Spirit at work in our midst. It is true, we are packed to the rafters and the energy and joy that fills the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall are reminders that we, as God's people, are celebrating the gifts of grace and love with a generosity and welcoming that is contagious.

We are blessed, and so desire to share our blessing. We accomplish this by our voice, whether raised in song on a Sunday, or in our day-to-day lives. We are part of a connected church, a connected Denomination that thrives *in* the world, not apart from it. Jesus calls us to engage one another, always certain of our faith in God and the good news of his love.

This month, even as we are becoming aware of the approaching rebirth that is Easter, Palm Springs Presbyterian will begin its Stewardship drive. This year, rather than depending on an early effort focused on past budgets, we have, as a congregation, approved a budget that exceeds past giving; a budget based on faith. When the Stewardship team presents our goals, everyone will know what they are, and where the needs and hopes exist. We will remember that this special community of faith is made up of both members and friends, and can only achieve the goal of being God's place in this place through the support of all who have found a church home in PSPC, for whatever time we are given to be together. We mean it when we say that all who enter are family, part of the life and action of PSPC; equal partners in Christ's service! And we are looking forward to exciting opportunities of worship, outreach and mission, even as we explore ways to make room for a growing family while at the same time remaining just that -family. Ways to stay connected with one another and create connections with our community.

Another blessing of connection has come to PSPC in the election of your Pastor as Teaching Elder Commissioner from Riverside Presbytery for the 2014 General Assembly to be held in Detroit this coming June. This is an incredible opportunity for our 'mighty mouse' church (thanks, Bill, for that perfect moniker), not just the honor of representing our Presbytery nationally, or being part of our national gathering, but to learn and glean from others on how we can grow in our faith and our work. While I understand it's a dead run from start to finish, it is a run to continue as part of a whole that is focused on the Gospel and our Creator's desire to be known and expressed.

There is nothing that is impossible in Christ; all that can be is waiting for the people of faith to take the risk - which is hardly a risk because of God's affirming presence - and embrace the possibilities that are manifest through the action of the Spirit. We have much for which to be thankful, and a song to sing that is as bright as the desert sun; brighter, maybe, because its from the heart and meant for everyone who hears it.

Always, God's Blessings, Rev. Christine

Are you interested in more trips? If you have an idea for a day let me know. I'm game for another Living Desert visit. How about Wed, March 12th at 10:00 AM.



Another consideration is "Open Call" at the McCallum Theater. I will buy 10-12 seats for April 18 at 2:00 PM. Let me know if you are interested. These seats will be purchased on March 3rd. Perhaps a trip to Sunnylands is in order. An outside tour is available at no cost while a guided tour inside is \$35. Let me know your interests.
Don Shepherd, Elder, Congregational Life





ELDER AND DEACON RETREAT - MARCH 15, 2014 9 AM to 1 PM
This is a time for current and incoming elders & deacons to learn more about their roles in the life of the church and to learn more about one another. An important and rewarding time well spent. Look forward to seeing you there. *Rev. Christine*

On February 23rd new elders and deacons were ordained and installed to serve as leaders of the church. Audrey Bergquist will also serve as a deacon (picture not available) Thanks to all.



Randy Bruno Virginia Ross Jeff Morgan



Jan Perrier Pauline Gregg Peggy Lynn Barbara Stephens



Session met on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at 11:10 pm with Pastor Christine welcoming the newly elected members. All members were present (in person or telephone) and including Donna Genett as guest and Robert Kemp representing the Deacons.

The meeting was opened with Elder Frances Gotenstein reading from "A Cup of Comfort" Book of Prayer followed with prayer.

The following items were approved:

- Southwest Trio Concert on March 19th at 6 PM
- Changing the Elder & Deacons retreat to March 19th as March 1st was in conflict with the Women's Retreat.
- The March 5:59 dinner set for March 13 th.
- A Rummage Sale to be planned in conjunction with the TRENO Neighborhood Sale
- Communion Dates for 2014 were set for the 1st Sunday of each month, Maundy Thursday and the Women's Retreat.
- Pastor Christine to attend the Presbyterian Church USA General Assembly June 14th thru June 21st. Pastor Christine was elected to be the Delegate to the Assembly representing the Riverside Presbytery.
- Pastor Christine to serve Communion at the Spirit of the Desert Church one Sunday Evening in March and April.

Committee Chairman and Co-Chairman were assigned to Committees as follows:

- Administration & Personnel - Kathy Smith
- Building & Grounds - Jim Chabot
- Christian Education - Virginia Ross
- Congregational Live - Don Shepherd & Randy Bruno
- Outreach - Dick Schultz
- Finance: Frances Gotenstein
- Stewardship - Frances Gotenstein & Randy Bruno
- Membership & Nominating Committee: Jeff Morgan
- Mission - Virginia Ross
- Music & Worship: Susan McGuire

Elder Jim Chabot reported that 2 encased signs with locks were donated for announcements and will be installed in the front side of the church by the parking lot.

Elder Frances Gotenstein reviewed the Treasurer's report. Financial Statements for month ended January 31, 2014 showed total revenue of \$14,825 and expenses of \$16,282 for a net loss of \$1,457.

If you have concerns you wish the Session to consider, please speak to one of our Session members, to Jim DeHart, Clerk of Session, or to Pastor Christine.

Online giving is up and running. Just get on our website, www.pspresby.org and click on the button in the upper right hand corner. The website will guide you through the steps to take advantage of online giving. It can be used to make regular tithes to the general fund. You can use this option weekly, every two weeks, monthly, quarterly or a one time basis.



A Trio Concert
featuring
William Kuyper, Horn
John De La Paz, Clarinet
Robert Miller, Piano
Wednesday, March 19 @ 6:00 PM
Free Admission
Music - Loeillet, F. Strauss, Chopin & Jenner

ONGOING PROJECTS

We recycle! Bring your empty aluminum cans and glass and plastic bottles to the church office. Thank you for helping our budget and the environment.

PSPC Aprons for sale "Have You Hugged a Presbyterian Today" - \$16.75 – See Morella, Jim or Jackie

PSPC cookbook, Love Feast, is for sale for \$5. See Jim or Jackie.

Save used ink cartridges for Palm Springs High School Band fundraiser. Collection jar is on Jackie's desk.

Save Box Tops for Education for Sabella's school. You can leave them in the office.

Bring a package, can or box of food for The Well in the Desert. Leave it in the bin by the front door. They can also use warm clothing.

Save used stamps and Campbell's soup Labels for The Tecate Mission. Leave a 1/4 inch border around the stamp when you cut them out. Leave them with Jackie.

Bring in your gently used women's clothing for Hacienda Valdez. You can leave it in the office with a note on it.

Sunday Morning Kerygma class with Ernie Moore – Fellowship Hall 8:30 AM

Men's Bible Study with Allen Perrier – Fellowship Hall Wed 7:00 AM Breakfast after Bible Study.

Women's Bible Study meets on Tuesday at 9:30 AM. We will be on hiatus in October.

Yoga Classes Tuesday, 11: AM (except on Women's Birthday Luncheon day) and Thursday at 5:30 PM (except on 5:59 Gathering Thursdays) in the Social



March Birthdays

Bob Wulf	6
Dick Erickson	6
Jack Hansen	7
Don Shepherd	25
Claire Vilhauer	25
Audrey Bergquist	27
Steve Lutke	28

Per Capita

"Per Capita" has its roots deep in Presbyterian connectional and covenantal nature, and is affirmed by the ordination vows taken by Teaching and Ruling Elders. Because of this, per capita could be called the Presbyterian Covenant Community Fund. This year's contribution is \$33.40 *per member*.

Every church is apportioned a share of the expenses of the presbytery, the synod and the General Assembly for ecclesiastical purposes. The apportionment is based on church membership. The 2014 apportionment amount for our congregation's membership is \$2772.20 and is funded from our general fund budget. Please include a "per capita" amount of \$33.40 per member once a year, in addition to your regular contribution, to meet this obligation. Also consider paying an extra share, if possible, as there are surely those whose budgets cannot stretch during these time to cover this expense.





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OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church is to proclaim the Good News of God by reaching out to others and inviting them into a new relationship with Jesus Christ. We commit ourselves to be a center for spiritual growth and friendship, where the teachings of Jesus are faithfully received and God's grace is joyfully celebrated.

Pastor:

Rev. Christine Dickerson

Music Director:

Alex Danson

Office Administrator:

Jim DeHart

Church Secretary

Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editors:

Jeff & Jackie Morgan



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